BP 5127 GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES

Note: The following policy suggests various options which may be modified to reflect district practice except that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that graduation ceremonies may not include school- sponsored prayers.

Note: Effective June 30, 2016, the requirement in AS 14.03.075 that a secondary student take a college and career readiness assessment before being issued a diploma is repealed.

High school graduation ceremonies shall be held to recognize those students who have successfully completed the district graduation requirements and earned the right to receive a diploma or a certificate of completion. Students earning a certificate of attendance may also participate in graduation ceremonies. *Requirements)*

(cf. 6146.5 - *Differential Requirements for Individuals with Exceptional Needs)*\

Note: The following optional paragraph may specify whatever number of uncompleted credits the School Board wishes to allow or may be deleted.

At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, a student who is no more than 3 credits short of fulfilling district credit requirements may participate in graduation exercises without receiving his/her diploma. When the required credits have been earned, a diploma shall be sent to the student by mail.

Note: The following optional paragraph may be used to deny participation in graduation activities. School site rules should indicate what privileges may be denied for what reasons, and the means whereby students may appeal these decisions.

In accordance with school-site rules, the Superintendent or designee may deny a student the privilege of participating in graduation or promotion activities because of misconduct.

(cf. 5144 - *Discipline)*

School-sponsored invocations and/or benedictions shall not be included in graduation ceremonies.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.075 Secondary pupil competency testing

14.03.090 Sectarian or denominational doctrines prohibited

UNITED STATES CODE

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 9524, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110

COURT DECISIONS

Santa Fe Indep. Sch. Dist. v. Doe, 530 U.S. 290 (2000)

Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992)

Revised 1/03

Adopted: July 25, 2006

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ANNETTE ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT